

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 711  
By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Ms. Lin Dunn on her numerous contributions to women's basketball and being named General Manager and Head Coach of the Seattle Storm.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize and commend our great athletic leaders, those who work hard, achieve great success and serve as exceptional representatives of their communities and the state; and

WHEREAS, Dresden native Lin Dunn is one such exemplary leader in women's athletics whose performance on and off the basketball court have earned her great respect and admiration; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dunn graduated from Dresden High School in 1965, where her renowned athletic abilities gained others' attention, even at an early age; she played girls' half-court basketball at Dresden and was named to the All State team for two years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dunn's outstanding efforts in the sport of basketball have extended throughout her entire profession; she has been an incredible success at the collegiate level, the international level, and the professional level; and

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WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Tennessee at Martin, she began her coaching career on the collegiate level at Austin Peay State University; she subsequently coached at Ole Miss, the University of Miami, and Purdue; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dunn served as head coach of the Lady Boilermakers at Purdue University for nine years from 1987-96; and

WHEREAS, she compiled an impressive .752 winning percentage at Purdue; she lead the team to the Final Four of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament in 1994, the Sweet 16 on four different occasions, and the NCAA Tournament during seven different seasons; she also skillfully guided the Boilermakers to three Big Ten Championships; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dunn's great talents are far-reaching; she coached several USA teams in international play, guided the teams to the medal stands for a gold medal during both the 1990 World Championships and the Goodwill Games, for a bronze medal in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona and won the 1995 Jones Cup; and

WHEREAS, the professional basketball arena is not new to Ms. Dunn; she began her career in January 1997 as the Head Coach of the American Basketball League (ABL) team, Portland Power; and

WHEREAS, during her first full season the Portland Power won the Western Conference Championship; she expertly directed the team from a last place position to a first place finish in one season; this remarkable feat was duly recognized and Ms. Dunn was voted the 1998 ABL Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, she was instrumental in the WNBA Champion Houston Comets 1999 draft; she applied her extensive knowledge of the league's players and the game as a Draft Consultant for the team; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional lady is now the Head Coach and General Manager of the WNBA Seattle Storm; the new franchise will begin its long anticipated season on May 31, 2000, and will host its first home game on June 1, 2000, at Seattle's KeyArena; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to her family, she is the daughter of the late Harry Dunn and Larue Dunn of Dresden; she is the oldest of four children, one brother Harry "Bud" Jr., and two sisters Carrie Thurston and Mary Byrd; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Ms. Lin Dunn for her dedication and contributions to women's basketball; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Ms. Lin Dunn for her remarkable talents, and her enhancement and expansion of women's athletics. We congratulate her on being named Head Coach and General Manager of the Seattle Storm, and wish her much continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.